

REMARKS

Claim Objections

Claim 7 is amended to overcome the objection based on a formality.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

Claims 1, 3 and 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kwon et al. [U.S. Patent # 5,768,215]. Applicant traverses this rejection.

Applicant disagrees with some of the Examiner's specific interpretations of Kwon. Nonetheless, claim 1 is amended to recite that the column selection circuit connects the first bit lines to the second bit lines. Kwon does not disclose first and second bit lines connected through a column select circuit. For at least this reason, claim 1 is not anticipated by Kwon, nor are claims 3 and 4 which depend from claim 1.

Allowable Subject Matter

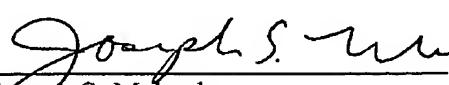
Claims 2, 5, and 6 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. Since the base claim is now allowable, this objection is overcome.

Claims 7-22 are allowable over the prior art.

Conclusion

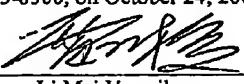
Applicant requests reconsideration in view of the foregoing amendments and remarks. The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned at (503) 222-3613 if it appears that an interview would be helpful in advancing the case.

Respectfully submitted,
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